

A Letter which Monsieur Desdiguieres
Constable of *France*, hath sent to the King his Master
to perswade him by pregnant Reasons to make Peace
with the Rochellers, and the other Protestants who
live in his Dominions, and to shew how necessary it is
that the King of *France* enter in league with
the Protestants and other Potentates, Princes and
States of *Christendome* to make war against
Spain to hinder the King of *Spain*
from the uniuersall Monarchie
to which hee
aspireth.

The lading of two Hollandish Ships which are come
from *Porto Ricco*, which Towne the *Hollanders*
haue taken in the West Indies.

The censure and condemnation of a Booke
(lately written by a Iesuite, *De Potestate Papae*)
by the Court of Parliament, which hath
beene since publikely burned
at Paris.

The strange death of Peter Cotton a Iesuite.

The new Admiraltie which is to be erected both in
Spain and the subdued Prouinces of the Low-coun-
tries to the great hurt and damage of several
Potentates, Princes and States of
Christendome, unlesse they
looke in good time
to themselves.

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1626.

(I)

A Letter which *Monsieur Desdignieres* Constable of France hath sent to the King his Master to perswade him by pregnant reasons to make peace with the *Rochellers*, and the other Protestants which live in his Dominions, and to shew how necessarie it is that the King of France enter in League with the Protestants and other Potentates, Princes and States of Christendome to make warre against Spaine, to hinder the King of Spaine from the Vniuersall Monarchie to which hee aspireth.

S I R,

THe Baron of Copet hauing informed me few dayes agoe of the present state of the affaires of Rochel, and *Arsens* the Extraordinary Embassadour which the States haue sent to your Maiesty, hauing added to it the dispatch which I send with this present, I haue thought my selfe bound, both by reason of the importance of the matter, & in regard of the affection which I haue had alwayes to the good of your seruice, to supplicate and beseech your Maiesty, that you will be pleased to find good that I shew vnto you, with all the respect I can, that although the obstinacie of this people is excessive, & that it seemeth that nothing can be added to their hardnesse, your prudence may neuer-

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thele keepe backe the effects of the resolution, which a iust anger hath made you to
suspende, and ale you to deferre them till an o-
ther occasion, to shew the displeasure and
discontentment which you haue conceiued
against them, for I assure you that it is as true
as the light shineth, that if your Majesty will
let the rebellion grow in your State, that
the game wonne to the *Spaniards*,
and openeth vnto them the gate to the Vni-
uersall Monarchie, it is you Sir that can hin-
der them from comming to it, and this same
reason moueth all other powers of Christen-
dome to relie vpon yours: without the ayde
which they haue, and expect from you in this
occasion, all their resistance is in vaine. And
according to the aime and scope of this
common Enemy, the domesticke occupati-
ons divert you from it, they shall be in danger
to carry the yoke which they shun, and your
negligence shall put your State in ha-
zard to fall into great inconueniences. I write
this to excuse them in any manner,
the disobedience hath made them guiltie,
as much as concerneth the *Rochellers*,
and yet to condemne them with all the

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rigours of the World · For it is certaine that they haue committed a crime, of which after your Majesty, God hath reserued the vengeance vnto himselfe. For I hold Sir, that they ought to acknowledge you absolutely, and with an obeyfance without any condition, & that they are bound to doe vnto you all endeouours of good, and faithfull subjects. But it is likewise certain, that as you are one of the wisest Kings of the World, you may vse in this matter your Royall prudence, and practise this necessary course, which seemeth to bee a part of the Royall Functions. Now forasmuch as concerneth your state, to kinde the warre in the same, is to open the gate vnto the *Spiniards*, and (I beseech you Sir) doubt not that they labour with all their power to increase it. The like causes haue in former times brought it into such confusions that the end of them hath hardly beene seene after the expiration of fifty yeeres: The same hath at other times caused all the disorders & mischiefes, which could not otherwise be remedied then by the valor of the late king your Father. I doubt not but that amongst them which haue the honour to come neere to

Yours

(4)

your Majesty, there are some which will labour to make suspect the aduice and counsell which I giue, and will metamorphose my integrity into a secret support of the Rebels. But I giue thanks vnto God, that your Majesty will not bee carried away with false impressions, which others will conceiue to the prejudice of your Majesties loyall seruants. My conscience iustifieth enough that my heart haue no other scope then your Majesties service. But neither that which may be said to disguise and disgrace my faithfull intentions, nor that which may bee inuented by ill minded persons, who labour to make my veritie mutable and vnersuicable, shall neuer be able to hinder mee from giuing your Majesty my vnderstand (as I am bound, my conscience) And I shall not leaue to protest my conscience that such as will stirre your Majesty to beare armes against France, and to kindle the warre, which will drawe in a generall warre, doe neither well nor ill to your Majesty. For altho it is beliened, that it will come neither in *France* nor in *Guene*, the contrary may be leene. And I am sure that your
Ma-

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Maiesty knoweth that which is done in one of those Prouinces : In another occasion if they doe not mend themselves, you shall alwayes haue the same power, yea, (if it may so be spoken) you shall haue better meanes, and it may bee that in the meane time they shall come to the acknowledgement of their endeouours. Moreouer, I may say that your Maiesty hauing atchieued with glory the affaires of *Italy*, you may triumph at one time ouer two enemies, namely, the domestick and Forreine, in lieu that if you will rather expell the other, then subdue these, you shall lose the present aduantages which neuer had any of all the Kings your Predecessours. It may please your Maiesty to pardon me, and to attribute the freedome of my discourse to the affection which I beare to your Maiesty. I expect your answere concerning this matter, and pray God that hee will replenish you with all manner of graces and talents.

*Your Maiesties most humble most obedi-
ent and most faithfull subject,
and servant,*

D. : : : : :

T. on the 21. of December 1641

(6)

The lading of two *Hollandish* Ships,
which are come from *Porto Ricco*
with good prizes.

In the one Ship are twelve bags with
2400. Rials of eight.

- 1. bagge with three pounds of Silver.
- 1. A Crosse of Silver.
- 5. Chests with Sugar.
- 40. Last, or eighty tunnes of Ginger.
- 12. Hides.
- 20. Chests with Tobacco.
- 8. Chests with Money of Brasse.
- 8. Basons of Copper.
- 1. Chest with Copper.

In the other are

- 200. Hides.
- 72. Bales of Ginger.
- 2. Double Chests of Sugar.
- 18. Iron Peecces of Ordnance.
- 1. Barrell with Steele.
- 2. Chests with Frankincense.
- 200. Rials of eight.

(7)

The new Admiralty which is to be
erected both in Spaine and the subdued
Prouinces of the *Low-Countries*, to the
great hurt and damage of severall Po-
tentates, Princes, and States of Christen-
dome, vnles it be timely preuented.

I.

SEeing that it is the mind and will of our
gracious Lord & King, to vse all means,
which may tend and serue to increace
the traffick and trading betwixt our Subiects
of the kingdomes of *Spaine*, and them of his
Maiesties hereditary *Netherlands*, intending
to erect and augment thereby both the olde
and new workmanships, and such as may
yet be found out, and to further the sale of
them which shall bee made in those Lands
which are vnder his subiection: As likewise
to hinder that the workmanships and mer-
chandizes of the Rebels be not brought and
sold in the afore-mentioned Lands of *Spain*
by deceit, or any colour, or pretext whatso-
euer

His Maiesty hath found good and fitting
to ordaine, that all the goods, wares, manu-

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factures

tactures and merchandizes of these Lands, shall be laden in the ports of the same, to be carryed thence into *Spaine*.

II. And to doe this conveniently, & with more security, and that the goods of *Spaine* may in the same maner be brought into the Ports of the aforementioned Lands which are vnder his Maiesties subiection; his Majesty hath beene pleased to grant by a Patent (dated Octob 4. 1624.) to his faithfull subiects of these Lands, both to them which dwel in *Spaine* and here, that they may erect & make a Company for trading and trafficke, vnder the name and title of Admiralty.

III. That they shall haue leaue to arme, & set forth vnder the same name & title of Admiralty, in the first beginning of it, the number of 24 men-of-warre, to serue them in the aforesaid trading and trafficke.

IIII. In which ships onely such shal haue power to lade their goods, and none else, as shall haue contributed to the setting forth of them, and be intolled in the Company, or Admiralty: with this aduantage, that the danger of the Sea and enemy, shall be at the generall charge of the Company, vpon condition

dition, that the owners of the goods shal pay such a *premio* or reward to the Company, as in reason shall be appointed by common voyces.

V. It is his Maiesties will, that all the manufactures which shalbe laden or imbarcked in these Lands, in the ships of the aforementioned Admiralty, ariuing in *Spaine*, shall be esteemed and receiued as free goods, & true manufactures of these Lands which are vnder the subiection of his Maiesty, so that in *Spaine* there shall not be made any search, inquiry, trouble or hindrance to them, considering that the diligence and care which shall be taken in these Lands shal be accounted sufficient to auoid all manner of deceit.

VI. The same shall likewise be obserued in regard of all other wares and merchandizes, which shall here be laden in the aforementioned ships of the Admiralty.

VII. And no manufactures of these lands which shall not be laden or imbarcked in the Ports which are vnder his Maiesties subiection, but be sent through other Lands, shall be admitted into *Spaine*, but to the contrary, be arrested and confiscated.

III. To aid this designe, and to ease the
 sayd Admiralty of the charges of the afore-
 said ships, which it is to vndergoe, and to re-
 pare the dammages and losses which may
 now and then happen, his Maiesty hath con-
 sidered that the afore-mentioned Admiralty
 shall receiue and take one in the hundred of
 all the goods which shall eyther come in or
 goe out of the ports of *Andalusia*, and of the
 Kingdome of *Granado*, which shall eyther
 be caried Northwards, as namely towards
France, England, Flanders, East land, &c. or be
 brought thence into the afore-said ports of
Spain.

IX. Which one in the hundred, amoun-
 th now notwithstanding therer but little
 more to about 90000. Ducats *per Annum*,
 hath been augmented and increased to 3.
 hundred thousand when the afore-sayd Com-
 mission shall be settled within the
 said

X. His Maiesty giueth to the
 sayd Admiralty yearly thousand of Ducats
 of the which summe is to be found
 according to the content of the said

XI. And

XI. And the afore-mentioned Admiralty shall likewise haue power to lay such a taxation and charge vpon the goods that shall be imbarked in these Lands, as shall bee thought reasonable in consideration of the customes, charges, and impositions which the same goods are to beare when they are sent through *France*, &c.

XII. Also, the fraughts of all the goods, which shall be transported to what place soeuer by the ships of the Admiralty, shall be long to the Company.

XIII. Besides all this, it is the intention of his maiesty, to transport to the said Admiraltie, by a contract the Merchandizes called in *Spaine*, *Mercaderias de Rey*, as namely, Salt, Spices, Cochineil, Wooll, Hides, and other, or such sort, and part as the Admiraltie shall thinke fit to accept of, and all the gaine that shall be made by them, shall be for the good of the company of the Admiraltie.

XIIII. Which severall parcells of revenues and profits shall farre exceed the yearly charges for the maintenance of the afore-mentioned foure and twentie ships.

XV. W

XV. Without making any account of the confiscations, & other aduantages which his Maieſty is granting to the ſaid Admiralty, by the ſaid Grant, or Patent. Among which aduantages, it is no ſmall thing to be accounted, that it is his Maieſties wil and deſire, that his ſubiects of theſe his obeiſant Lands, and their children, which ſhall haue part in this Company or Admiralty, ſhall bee preferred to all dignities and offices, which ſhall be vacant in theſe *Netherlands*, and ſort with their quality, if they ſhall demand them, & ſerue them in their owne perſons.

XVI. In ſuch manner, that they which cauſe themſelues to be inrolled in this Company may expect both profit and honor.

XVII. For the erecting of which the *Netherlanders* which are reſident in *Swil*, haue made a beginning, by forming of their Colledge (or Court) and in ſetting forth diuers good ſhips, for the ſeruice of the generall Company.

XVIII. So that to bring this Admiralty to full effect, and a beginning of Nauigation may be made, there wants nothing elſe, but that here in theſe Lands there be made a
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Company of all such as will come into it, and haue their part and share therein, who may henceforth declare themselves, to the intent that out of them may be chosen such a number as shalbe necessary for the direction and administration of the sayd Admiralty, which shall haue her chiefe Colledge in the City of *Antwerp*.

XIX. Which Directors or Deputies shall with the consent of the Deputies that are in *Sivil*, & after communication with the common participants in the Company, ordayne a forme and manner how they may keepe their correspondency, and diuide the profits of the sayd Company.

XX. This being done to the full contentment of euery one, and a good order made for the gouernment of the said Admiralty, and not before, shall such persons which will be declared as participants declare how much they will contribute and lay in it, the which may not be lesse, but more then the summe of

From Paris, *Historie*

...chance for much. Only we heare for
...at Syll in Spaine, which
...Six dayes since was here
...at Rome, & there
...allowed of by the Pro-
...which booke here is like to bee much adoe
...for they were called before the Coun-
...dayes past, where being demanded they
...the said booke, Came the great leane de-
...three dayes respite for their an-
...being expired, and the Council
...they appeared not. The Council being
...against them, sent an expresse messenger,
...them at that instant to come along with the sayd
...being in a perplexity vpon
...the messenger to have him excused to the
...himselfe not well. The Messenger
...message to bring them with him
...and the same day dyed. Most men
...have but a little while to stay in France



